

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 04039 300714Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03
DODE-00 CIAE-00 SP-02 L-01 MC-01 TRSE-00 EB-04
ACDA-10 IGA-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 DHA-02 USIE-00 H-01
OC-06 CCO-00 /060 W

-----004252 300731Z /16

O 300635Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4685

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 4039

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, ET, US

SUBJ: TERMINATION OF US-ETHIOPIAN MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP

REF: A. STATE 150549, B. ADDIS ABABA 4025

1. AFTER GIVING CAREFUL THOUGHT TO DEPT'S PROPOSED PRESENTATION ON TERMINATION OF MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP, I WISH TO SUGGEST STRONGLY IN INTERESTS OF FUTURE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS THAT WE NARROW PRESENTATION CONSIDERABLY FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

A. IN OUR JUDGMENT, ETHIOPIANS ACCEPTED THAT MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WOULD BE TERMINATED WHEN THEY TOOK DECISION TO CLOSE DOWN MAAG AND ABROGATE 1953 AGREEMENT, THUS, EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE NOT CONFIRMED TERMINATION, WE DOUBT THAT OUR DECISION WILL COME AS ANY PARTICULAR SHOCK TO THEM ALTHOUGH THEY MAY VERY WELL BE UNHAPPY WITH THE DETAILS AND ADMITTEDLY COULD EVENTUALLY REACT BADLY. WHAT INTERESTS THEM NOW, I BELIEVE, IS WHAT THEY CAN STILL EXPECT FROM WHAT THEY HAVE ALREADY PAID US. THIS IS WHAT I JUDGE TO BE THRUST OF BOTH MENGISTU'S COMMENTS TO ME (ADDIS 3507) AND FONMIN'S THREE DAYS LATER (ADDIS 3540).

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ADDIS 04039 300714Z

B. ETHIOPIANS HAVE ALREADY TOLD US THEY WANT TO MAINTAIN BASIC FUNDAMENTAL (NORMAL) BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND VERY RECENTLY WE HAVE RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT SOME MINISTRIES ARE IN FACT DESIROUS OF RECEIVING USG ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. WE HAVE PICKED UP NO INDICATIONS THAT EPMG HAS ANY WISH TO TAKE ANY FURTHER ACTIONS AGAINST THE

OFFICIAL AMERICAN PRESENCE IN ETHIOPIA. GENERAL IMPRESSION THEREFORE IS THAT EPMG ALREADY CONSIDERS ITSELF AS PROCEEDING ALONG PATH OF "NORMAL RELATIONS."

2. ACCORDINGLY, I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD CONFINE OUR APPROACH TO NARROW QUESTIONS WHICH CONCERN EPMG AND NOT ATTEMPT BORADER APPROACH OF PARA 3 OF STATE REFTEL WHICH IN MY JUDGMENT IS NOT NECESSARY IN TERMS OF MATTER AT HAND AND RISKS SERIOUSLY IRRITATING THEM AGAIN BY ONCE MORE RAISING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AND LEAVING OURSELVES OPEN TO ALMOST CERTAIN INTERPRETATION THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO INTERFERE IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS BY TELLING THEM HOW TO HANDLE THEIR OPPOSITION GROUPS. IN ADDITION, I DOUBT ETHIOPIANS WOULD SEE ANY "ADVANTAGE" TO THEM IN OUR REMOVING OURSELVES FROM THOSE ASPECTS OF REVOLUTION WE DON'T LIKE.

3. I THEREFORE PROPOSE THAT WE CONVEY TO THEM SUBSTANCE OF PARA 2 STATE REFTEL AND OF STATE 148626 WITH AN INTRODUCTION STATING THAT AS EPMG IS ALREADY AWARE FROM MY DISCUSSION WITH MENGISTU, IT HAS BEEN OUR PERCEPTION THAT EPMG HAS CLEARLY INDICATED TO US ITS DESIRE TO TERMINATE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP BY DIRECTED DEPARTURE OF MAAG AND DAO, ABROGATION OF 1953 AGREEMENT AND RECALL OF TRAINEES IN US, AND DRAW ON PARA 3 ONLY ON IF-ASKED BASIS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ADDIS 04039 300714Z

4. RE PARA 4 REFTEL (A), SINCE EPMG WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY RAISE QUESTION OF PROGRESS PAYMENTS, I WOULD HOPE WE COULD BE MORE FORTHCOMING. I CAN FORESEE MATTERS MENTIONED BY DEPT STRETCHING OUT FOR LONG PERIOD OF TIME WHILE BOTH SIDES ATTEMPT TO PUT THEIR ACCOUNTING RECORDS IN ORDER AND THEN NEGOTIATE. I THEREFORE STRONGLY SUGGEST THAT IF WE WANT TO TERMINATE MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP QUICKLY AND CLEANLY AND MOVE ON TO KIND OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONSHIP SUGGESTED PARA 3 REFTEL, WE TELL THEM THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO REFUND PROGRESS PAYMENTS AS SOON AS WE KNOW THE EXACT AMOUNT AND NOT ATTEMPT TO INTERMINGLE THEM WITH SUCH MATTERS AS KAGNEW WATER AND ELECTRICITY ACCOUNTS WHICH AS DEPT AWARE ARE VERY TANGLED.

5. FINALLY, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR US TO KNOW AT LEAST IN GENERAL WAY WHAT HAS IN FACT BEEN DELIVERED TO ETHIOPIA'S FREIGHT FORWARDER.

6. STATE 152140 JUST RECEIVED AND I WILL GO AHEAD AND TRY FOR AN APPOINTMENT AS DIRECTED. FOREGOING NONETHELESS REPRESENTS MY VIEWS AS REQUESTED PARA ONE STATE 150549. I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT TO CONVEY PARA 3 (OR AT

LEAST FORST TWO SENTENCES) OF THAT MESSAGE WILL RISK
JEOPARDIZING, PERHAPS SERIOUSLY, ESTABLISHMENT OF FOUNDA-
TION FOR NORMAL RELATIONSHIP, AND WOULD REMIND DEPT THAT
WE HAVE ALREADY TOLD ETHIOPIAS AT SEVERAL LEVESL
INCLUDING MENGISTU OF OUR INTEREST IN CONTINUING
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

7. REQUEST DEPT'S COMMENTS BY OPENING OF BUSINESS JULY
ONE.
TIENKEN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUPPLIES, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS04039
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770233-0568
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977065/aaaaadqv.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dfca7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 150549, 77 ADDIS ABABA 4025
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2125739
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERMINATION OF US-ETHIOPIAN MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP
TAGS: MASS, ET, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dfca7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009